9. हृदय रोगों से पीड़ित बीड़ी श्रमिकों को वित्तीय सहायता के रूप में व्यय की प्रतिपूर्ति करने संबंधी योजना ।

10. गुर्दा प्रत्यारोपण आदि के लिये बीड़ी श्रमिकों की वित्तीय सहायता के रूप में व्यय की प्रतिपूर्ति करने संबंधी योजना ।

11. सामाजिक सुरक्षा के अन्तर्गत बीड़ी श्रमिकों के लिये समूह बीमा योजना ।

Labour Co-operative to Operate Closed Mills

1865. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 45 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th July, 1994 and state:

(a) what is the number of labour co-operatives formed throughout the country to take over closed industrial undertakings; and

(b) why Government and trade unions have shown lack of enthusiasm on the formation of labour co-operatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Spelial Provisions) Act, 1985, it is mandatory for the management of a sick industrial company to make reference to the Board for industria and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). Revival of sick industrial companies through workers' cooperative is one of the measures envisaged under the Act.

According to the available information BIFR has so far sanctioned five schemes for revival of sick industrial companies through workers' cooperative. These are:

1. Kamani Tubes Ltd. — Bombay

2. New Central Jute Mills — Calcutta

3. Powder Metals & Alloys Ltd. — Thane

4. Kamani Metal & Alloys Ltd — Bombay

5. HES Ltd. — Bombay

While the schemes at Serial No. 1 and 2 above are under implementation, the other three schemes have not yet taken off. Ministry of Labour as a matter of general policy does encourage, *inter-alia*, rehabilitaiton schemes through employees' cooperatives. Industry-wise Tripartite Committees have resolved that at the enterprise level, managements and employees could get together and formulate rehabilitation proposals and bring the same for their consideration. Such proposals can also be cooperative based ones.

Safety of Child Labour

1866. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken during each of the last three years with regard to the health and safety of child labour working in industries and in different fields and also to remove their exploitation;

(b) how many special schools have been opened during the last three years (year-wise) under the Child Labour Programme to cater to the needs of such children;

(c) what are the concrete achievements of the centrally sponsored non-formal erucation scheme launched more than 15years ago to serve children not attending schools; and

(d) what are the main recommendations and concrete action taken by Government on the recommendations on Child Labour of the Gurupadaswamy Committee and the task force on Child Labour set up under the Chairmanship

of Dr. L. M. Singhvi, which submitted its report in December, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Several legislative and enforcement measures to safeguard the health of child labour have been taken. Child labour is prohibited under the Factories Act, the Mines Act, Merchant Shipping Act, and the Motor Transport Act, etc. apart from being specifically prohibite in the scheduled occupations processes under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. On the recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee on Child Labour, new occupations/processes bound to be hazardous have been added to the schedule on 29 1994. In areas where children are permitted to work their working conditions have been regulated under Part-III of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act which was notified for all classes of establishments, throughout India on 26.5.1994. A year by year cost of steps cannot be given since enforcement of laws safeguarding the interests of child labour is an on-going process.

(b) Number of special schools under NCLP, year-wise is given below:—

1991-92	— 125
1992-93	— 125
1993-94	— 163

In addition, more than 2000 children benefitted each year under the Grant-in-aid scheme and more than 30,000 children benefitted under the IPFC for the two years 1992-93, 1993-94.

(c) The Programme of Non-Formal Education (NFE) was started in 1979-80 on experimental basis in educationally backward States/UTs for children in the age group 6—14 who are unable to attend formal schools. NFE has become an accepted alternative strategy for imparting education to children. Under this programme, at present, there are 2.55 lakhs NFE Centres with enrolment capacity of 63.75 lakhs children per year, in 20 States/UTs. Voluntary Organisations have also been involved in this effort.

(d) The Committee on Child Labour (Gurupadaswamy Committee) which submitted its report in December, 1979, examined the problems of child labour in detail. India is one of the countries where the problems of child labour are quite openly manifest and the widespread existence of child labour has been viewed by the Government of India with concern. The Gurupadaswamy Committee recognised that a distinction had to be made between child labour and the exploitation of child labour as, though both are a problem, they are of different orders. It had underlined that in all future action dealing with child labour this basic aspect would have to be taken note of, i.e., that "labour becomes an absolute evil in the case of the child when he is required to work beyond his physical capacity, when hours of employment interfere with his education, recreation and rest, when his wages are not commensurate with the quantum of work done, and when the occupation he is engaged in endangers his health and safety" i.e. when he is exploited.

A statement (*See* below) showing the steps taken in pursuance of the accepted recommendations of the Gurupadsamy Committee in child labour is annexed.

The recommendations and action taken on the recommendations of the Task Force on child labour headed by Dr. L. M. Singhvi was laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha in reply to Rajya Sabha Started Question No. 7 on 25th July, 1994.

Statement

Steps taken in pursuance of recommendations of the Gurupadswamy Committee.

(1) A Child Labour Cell has been set up in the Ministry of Labour.

(2) A Central Advisory Board on child labour has been set up to advise

Government on the measures to be taken towards progressive elimination of child labour.

(3) The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation Act, 1986 has been enacted which:—

(i) prohibits the employment of children below 14 years of age in certain specified occupations and processes;

(ii) seeks to regulate the conditions of work/work environment of children in employments in which they are not prohibited from working;

(iii) brings about uniformity in the definition of 'Child' (as' a person who has not completed his 14 years of age') in the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the plantations Labour Act, 1951 the Merchant shipping Act, 1958 and the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961;

(iv) empowers any person to file a complaint of the Commission of of an offence under the Act in any court of competent jurisdiction;

(v) provides for stringent penalty provisions for violation of provisions relating to child labour. The penalties will apply for violations of the provisions of minimum age of entry into employments in the Factories Act, 1948, the Mines Act, 1952, the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961.

(4) The Government of India in the Ministry of Labour has taken up a Centrally-sponsored scheme for strengthening the enforcement machinery in States for better implementation of laws relating to child and women labour. The scheme has now been transfered to the state.

(5) Dialogue has been initiated with Trade Unions and employers organisations to explore their cooperation in respect of the needs of working children.

(6) All State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been addressed from time to time to strictly enforce the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act.

(7) Department of education have set up a number of non-formal education centres with the help of voluntary organisations.

(8) The recommendations of the Committee were also considered while formulating the National Child Labour Policy-1987.

(9) Financial assistance is provided to voluntary organisations for taking up action-oriented project aimed at benefitting child labour.

(10) Under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regultaion) Act, 1986, a "Child Labour Technical Advisory Committee" has been constituted to advise the Central Government for the purpose of adding to the list of occupations and processes in which employment of chiludren is prohibited.

Data on Child Labour

1867. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) which is the Central agency to collect all relevant data on child labour on all-India basis;

(b) what are the State-wise figures of child labourers according to 1981 census and 1991 census, separately;

(c) what are the State-wise details of the percentage of child workers to child population and also the State-wise